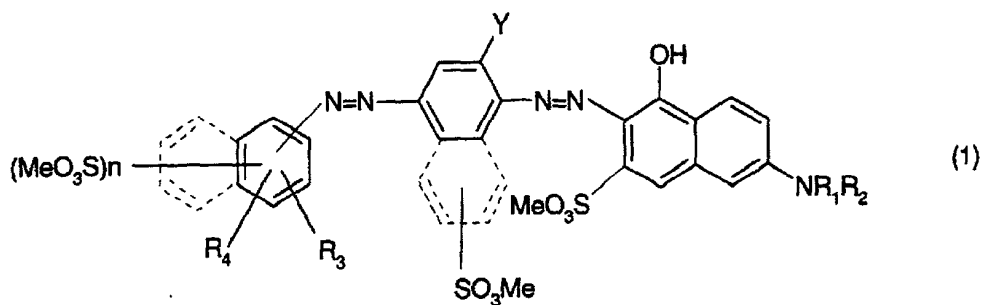
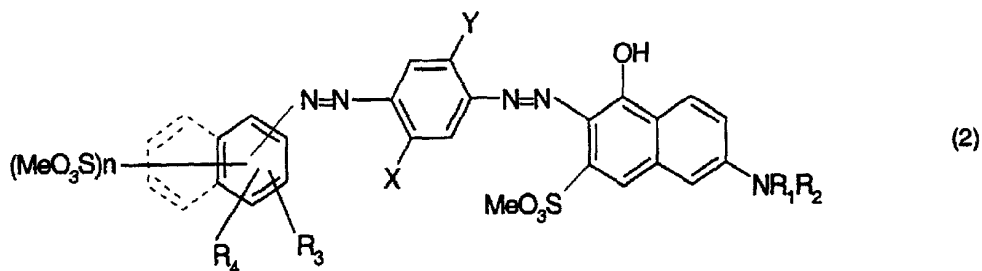


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A violet dye mixture for shading white paper, comprising a violet dye of the formula



or



where

R₁ is hydrogen or alkyl,

R₂ is hydrogen, alkyl or substituted or unsubstituted aryl,

R₃ and R₄ are independently hydrogen or alkyl,

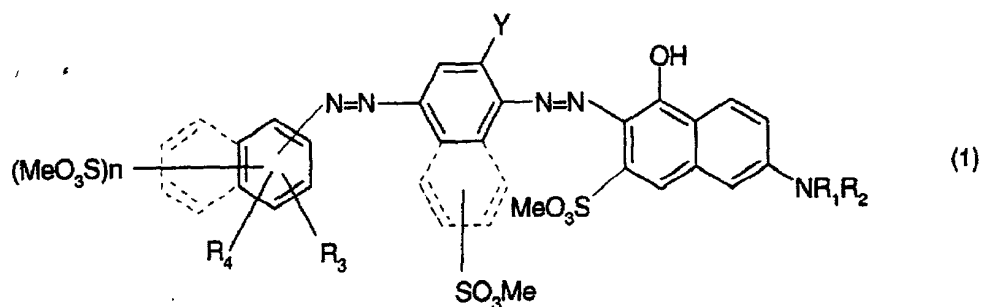
X and Y are independently hydrogen, alkyl or alkoxy,

n is 1 or 2, and

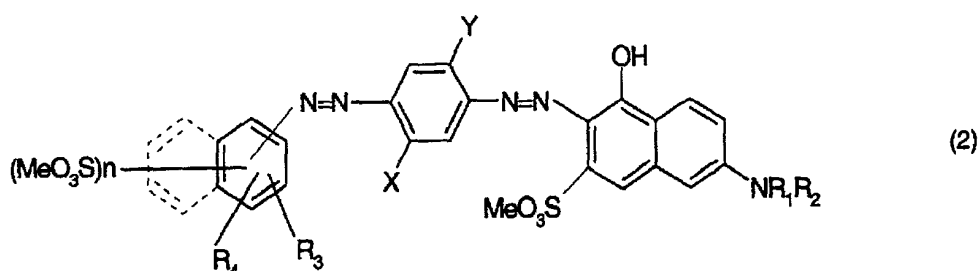
Me is hydrogen or one equivalent of a colourless cation,

and sufficient of a red, blue or further violet anionic azo dye that this dye mixture produces, in the Cielab colour co-ordinates system, a relative hue angle of 270 to 295° when the dyeing contains 0.00005 to 0.005% by weight of dye, based on the weight of the paper, with the proviso that the value 0.005% is excluded.

2. A violet dye mixture for shading white paper, comprising a violet dye of the formula



or



where

R_1 is hydrogen or alkyl,

R_2 is hydrogen, alkyl or substituted or unsubstituted aryl,

R_3 and R_4 are independently hydrogen or alkyl,

X and Y are independently hydrogen, alkyl or alkoxy,

n is 1 or 2, and

Me is hydrogen or one equivalent of a colourless cation,

and sufficient of a red, blue or further violet anionic azo dye that this dye mixture produces, in the Cielab colour co-ordinates system, a relative hue angle of 270 to 295° when the dyeing contains 0.00005 to 0.005% by weight of dye, based on the weight of the paper, with the proviso that the value 0.005% is excluded, whereby the weight ratios of the violet dye of formula (1) or (2) to the red, blue or further violet anionic azo dye lie within the range of between 98 to 2 parts and 40 to 60 parts.

3. A dye mixture according to claim 2 in which the dyeing contains 0.00005 to 0.004% by weight of dye, based on the weight of the paper.

4. A dye mixture according to claim 2 in which the dyeing contains 0.00005 to 0.003% by weight of dye, based on the weight of the paper.

5. A dye mixture according to claim 2, producing a relative hue angle of 275 to 285°.

6. A dye mixture as claimed in claim 2, comprising a violet dye of the formula (1) or (2) wherein

R_1 is hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 alkyl,

R_2 is hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 alkyl or substituted or unsubstituted phenyl,

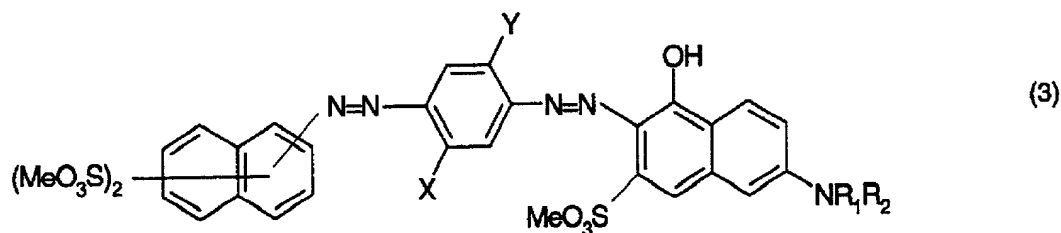
R_3 is hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 alkyl,

X and Y are independently hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 alkyl or C_1 - C_4 alkoxy,

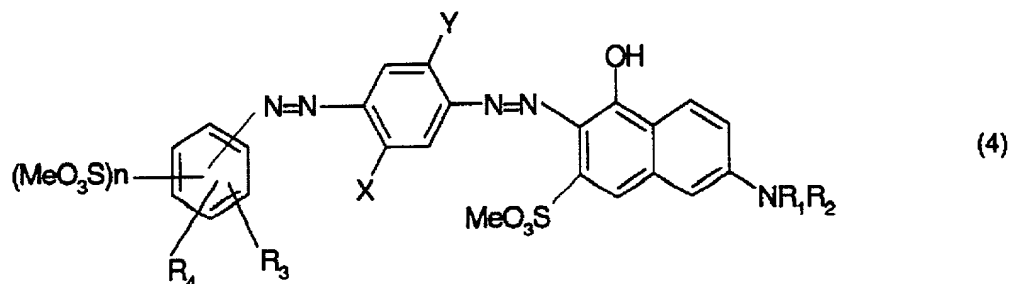
n is 1 or 2, and

Me is hydrogen, sodium, lithium or the protonated form of a C_4 - C_{12} trialkylamine, of a C_4 - C_{12} diamine, of a C_2 - C_{15} alkanolamine or of a polyglycolamine.

7. A dye mixture according to claim 2, comprising a violet dye of the formula



or



wherein

X is hydrogen or C_1 - C_2 alkyl,

Y is hydrogen or C_1 - C_2 alkoxy,

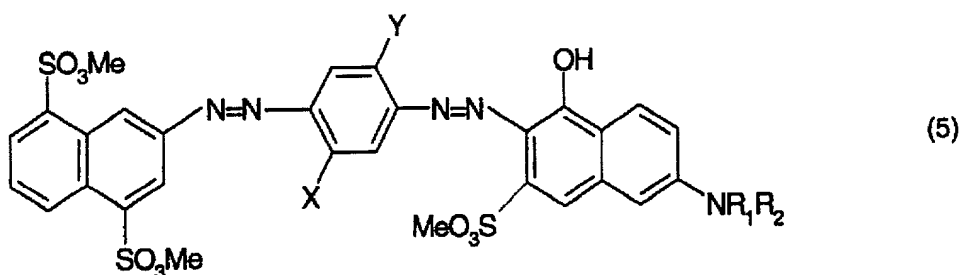
R_1 is hydrogen or C_1 - C_2 alkyl,

R_2 is hydrogen, C_1 - C_2 alkyl or phenyl,

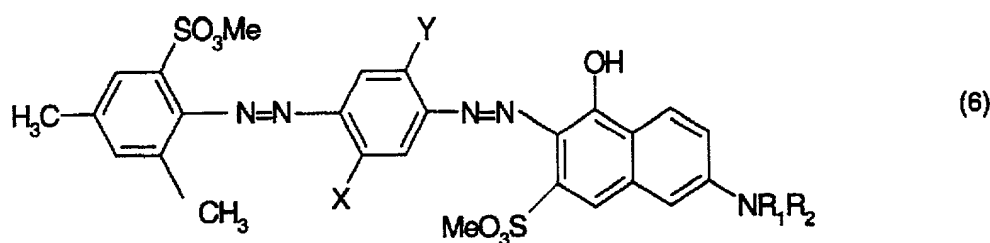
R_3 and R_4 are independently hydrogen or C_1 - C_2 alkyl, and

Me is hydrogen, sodium or an organic ammonium or alkanolammonium cation.

8. A dye mixture according to claim 7, comprising a violet dye of the formula



or of the formula



wherein

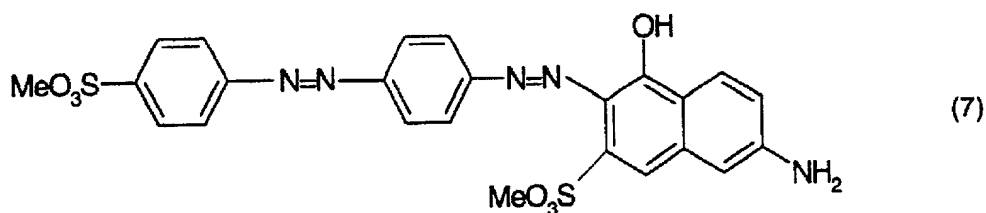
X and Y are independently hydrogen, C₁-C₂alkyl or C₁-C₂alkoxy,

R₁ is hydrogen or C₁-C₂alkyl,

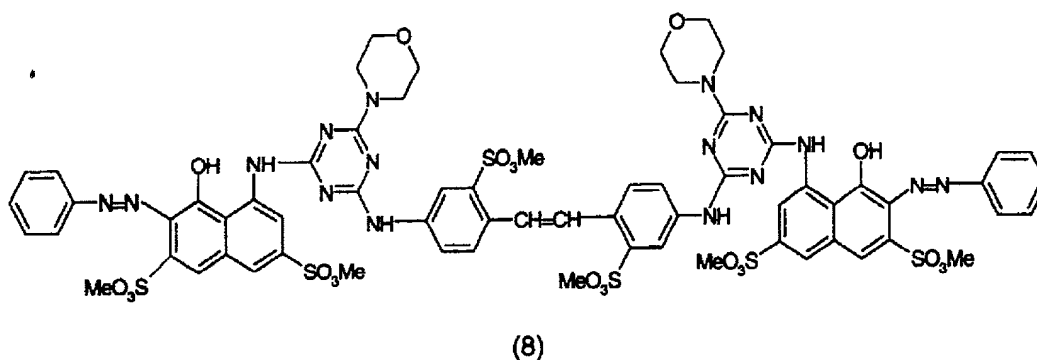
R₂ is hydrogen, C₁-C₂alkyl or phenyl, and

Me is hydrogen, sodium or an organic ammonium or alkanolammonium cation.

9. A dye mixture according to claim 2, comprising a red dye of the formula



or of the formula



wherein

Me is hydrogen, sodium or an organic ammonium or alkanolammonium cation.

10. A solid dye preparation for shading white paper, comprising a dye mixture according to claim 2.

11. A concentrated aqueous dye mixture solution for shading white paper, comprising 5 to 30% by weight, based on the total weight of the solution, of a dye mixture according to claim 2.

12. A concentrated aqueous solution according to claim 11, comprising further auxiliaries selected from the group consisting of solubilizers and organic solvents.

13. A process for shading white paper, which comprises dyeing the paper with a dye mixture according to claim 2 using 0.5 to 100 g of pure dye per tonne of paper.

14. A process according to claim 13 for shading white paper additionally comprising an optical brightener.